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PACIFIC PACT DIVERGENCES

Britain Anxious For London Consultations In Near Future

COMMENT

Decision of the Big Three radically to revise the Occupation Statute governing West Germany, while hardly timed to coincide with the Big Four deliberations in Paris, can scarcely avoid influencing their tenor. The immediate aim, to bring West Germany to active participation in the common defence effort of the West, is undisputed, as is Russian determination to throw wrenches into the machinery if at all possible.

Certain occupation controls are still required by the theoretical existence of a state of war, but the Statute revisions achieve most of the practical effects of a peace treaty long before the settlement can be finally written.

On his part, the Federal Chancellor, Dr Adenauer, has removed the one obstacle to a political understanding, an essential prerequisite to the throwing of German weight into the Western balance. This obstacle has been reluctance to acknowledge Germany's entire pre-war and post-war debts.

Such an acknowledgment was demanded by the Western Powers—as a condition for giving Bonn greater authority and speeding arrangements for German security. The Germans hesitated to accept the obligation, partly because the amount was undetermined, and partly because the Adenauer Government, ruling only half of Germany, jibbed at covering the whole. In addition, it was argued that a large part of Allied economic aid since the war was necessitated by restrictions imposed by the victors.

The Big Three have now given assurance that the Republic will have to bear only a proportional share of the total. Insistence on acceptance of the debt in principle was both in order to establish the fact that the Bonn Government is the only legitimate authority in Germany and to improve German credit abroad.

Settlement should now pave the way for broader negotiations for those "contractual relations" which will bring Germany into the democratic fold.

Three Alternative Accords Under Close Study

London, Mar. 7.

Talk of a Pacific Pact was revived here today by reports that the United States has promised Australia and New Zealand that some arrangement for their security would be made when the Japanese peace treaty was completed.

MURDERED BRITON'S WIFE MENACED

Manila, Mar. 8.

The police today posted a heavy guard at the residence of the murdered shipping lines executive, Mr Francis Gispert, after his widow disclosed that she had been receiving death threats in the past four days.

The disclosure came as the police continued to make little headway in their efforts to solve the killing of Gispert.

Gispert, manager of the Associated Shipping Lines, was shot dead one week ago today as he ascended the stairs to his third-floor office in the Manila Port Terminal building.

Mrs Carmen Nicholson Gispert told the police she had been receiving calls on the telephone as well as anonymous letters, threatening her and her family with death unless they abstained from giving information to the police. The letters which were made up of words clipped from newspapers, were turned over to the police.

The police, meanwhile, released all suspects in the case after airtight alibis had been established. Investigators working on the case remained silent on latest developments. —United Press.

New British Envoy In Peking

Tokyo, Mar. 7.

Peking Radio reported today that Mr Lionel Henry Lamb, new British representative, arrived in Peking on Tuesday evening and was met at the railroad station by Han Shu, section chief of the Protocol Office of the Foreign Ministry.

Mr Lamb replaces Sir John Hutchison, who has been conducting talks "relating to the establishment of diplomatic relations" with Communist China. The Red broadcast said Sir John Hutchison was ordered back to England and left Peking on Monday. —United Press.

Assam Shock

Johrat, Mar. 7.

An earthquake shock, as severe as that which devastated large areas of Assam last year, was felt here at 1 a.m., local time today.

It lasted two minutes but there were no reports of damage. —Reuter.

Official quarters attached significance to the appointment of Mr Percy Spender, Australian Minister for External Affairs, as Ambassador to Washington. They said this showed the importance Australia attached to the need for such a pact.

Mr Spender was understood to have told Mr John Foster Dulles, Republican adviser to the State Department in Canberra, recently that Australia would consent to Japanese rearmament only if it were kept within the framework of a Pacific Pact or if Australia received an American guarantee against revived Japanese aggression.

Hitherto Britain has not paid much attention to the Pacific Pact on the grounds that the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation should first be put in working order. It is understood, however, that Britain now believes the time has come for Southeast Asian defence arrangements to take shape and plans are being made for consultations on the question to be held in London, probably in May this year.

In this connection, Mr Malcolm MacDonald, Commissioner General for Southeast Asia, has been called to London from Malaya. Mr MacDonald arrived by air yesterday, accompanied by General Sir John Harding, British ground troops commander in Southeast Asia.

THREE FORMS

In the British viewpoint, there are three possible forms of Pacific Pact:

1. An overall Pacific Pact. The British argument against this is that it would include some "doubtful allies" and would also be opposed by India.

2. An "island" pact between America, Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Indonesia and the Philippines. This would omit the economically-important countries of Malaya, Burma, India, Pakistan and Ceylon and would raise new problems about Formosa.

3. A pact between America, Britain, Australia and New Zealand only. In this case, France and Holland would doubtless object to their interests in Indo-China and Indonesia being excluded, officials said.

The Australian idea is that Japan's revived army should be formed into combat teams without a General Staff but be put at the disposal of the Supreme Commander under a defence system comparable to General Dwight Eisenhower's North Atlantic command. —United Press.

Stalin Attends

Moscow, Mar. 7.

Josef Stalin attended today's joint session of the Supreme Soviet at which the Soviet budget was discussed.

He was loudly cheered for several minutes by the assembled Deputies. —Reuter.

Malayan Princess's Love Tangle

Penang, Mar. 8.

A rich Malayan prince came to Penang today to seek legal advice on his 19-year-old daughter's request to marry an English engineering student in London.

The Prince, the Tengku Yahya, brother of the Sultan of Kedah, had threatened to disown the girl, Princess Zabariah, if her marriage to a Christian goes through.

The Princess, a niece of one of the wealthiest and most powerful figures in Malaya, had been working in a London office for a modest salary under the plain name of Joyce Hamid. Her mother was English.

Tuan Sheikh Mahmud, President of the Kedah Council for Religious Affairs and Malay Customs, told Reuter today that a Moslem girl could only marry a Moslem. If a Christian wanted to marry her then he must first be converted to the Islam faith. —Reuter.

London Disturbed By Iran Assassination

London, Mar. 7.

The assassination of the Prime Minister of Iran brought Western apprehension today about repercussions in that hot-spot of the Middle East, long considered a far more likely target for any Russian aggressive move than Yugoslavia.

News from Iran indicated that the shooting of Premier Ali Razmara was motivated by political as well as religious reasons. The killer was a devotee of a sect of Moslems now causing unrest throughout the Islamic world in such places as Morocco and Kashmir, but interrogation by the police disclosed that he also was a supporter of a nationalist political group which, apparently with Soviet backing, has demanded the ousting of British and American interests from Iran.

Under the recent trade agreement, Russia moved agents into Iran to foment nationalist feeling. Western diplomats were wary lest Russia seize on extended turmoil in Iran as an

excuse to send Red Army forces into that oil-rich land of desert and mountains, particularly the northern province of Azerbaijan.

Razmara had been extremely successful in steering a neutral course between Russia and the West. He was only too well aware that Soviet divisions were right on his border while the nearest Allied troops were at the small British garrison of Suez. That fact weighed heavily because Razmara was a soldier first of all. He became Chief of Staff of the Iranian Army four years ago at the age of 44.

The Iranian Embassy here said reports from Teheran were "confused." —United Press.

Six Inch Snow In Cornwall

London, Mar. 7.

Snow fell in North and West England, Scotland and Wales today, while rain spread slowly over the South.

Six inches of snow covered the road between Launceston and Bodmin in Cornwall. Other parts of the West reported three inches of snow. —Reuter.

COLLAZO CONDEMNED TO DEATH

Washington, Mar. 7.

The Federal Court jury today condemned the Puerto Rican revolutionary Oscar Collazo to death in the electric chair for his part in trying to assassinate President Truman.

The jury convicted the 37-year-old defendant on two counts of first-degree murder for killing a White House guard, Leslie Coffelt, in the Blair House gun battle. The death penalty is mandatory under the verdict. The jury deliberated one hour 42 minutes before returning the verdict "guilty as charged."

Collazo also was found guilty of murderous assault on two other White House guards.

The Court-appointed defence counsel, Leo Rover, who served without a fee, immediately announced that he would appeal to the Supreme Court if necessary.

Collazo, who entered the courtroom to hear the verdict with a smile, took it calmly and without any show of emotion. As he was led handcuffed from the room after the verdict he nodded his head to his wife, Rosa and smiled. —United Press.

A TICKLISH JOB IN KOREA



TAKE IT EASY!—U. S. engineers, cautiously handling a mine detector on a snow-bound road in Korea, are on the lookout for explosives buried by the Communists. The unlucky can easily be blown to pieces if they happen to step on one of the mines planted for that purpose.

South African Gold Policy Criticised

Washington, Mar. 7. The International Monetary Fund today announced that it was dissatisfied with the gold policy of South Africa and several other countries.

The Fund issued a statement saying: "The amount of sales and purchases in world markets of gold for 'jewellery, artistic and industrial purposes' has recently been increasing at a rate indicating that at least part of it finds its way to private hoards, contrary to the gold policy of the Fund established in June 1947."

Because of this, the Board of the Fund "considers existing arrangements and practices of several countries, including South Africa, are no longer a satisfactory basis to implement the Fund's gold policy". It said that therefore it had directed its staff "urgently to elaborate, after consultation with the countries concerned, more effective methods than existing ones."—United Press.

Tests For Flying At Twice The Speed Of Sound

Cleveland, Ohio, Mar. 7.

Scientists working in multi-million dollars laboratories here admitted today that they are making tests that may lead to the design of aircraft capable of flying twice the speed of sound. The laboratories are those of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics located on the west end of Cleveland Municipal Airport.

Emphasis is put on aircraft propelled by the turbo jet engine, a type of engine which employs the use of a compressor to feed air into the combustion chamber where power for forward thrust is manufactured.

Scientists here have some expensive tools to make their tests of how the engine would perform at a 60-, 70- or 80,000 feet altitude where there is virtually no oxygen and where the temperature is as low as 100 degrees below zero.

They no longer talk of speed as fast as sound—about 660

miles an hour in higher altitude. They talk of speeds of 1,200 to 1,500 miles per hour and the possibility of planes that will travel automatically with no pilot aboard.

An important tool is the world's largest supersonic wind tunnel—a frightening piece of engineering through which winds travelling at twice the speed of sound roar against model "subjects" such as a model supersonic plane to determine whether conditions are proper for such speeds and shock waves.

The "icing house" at the laboratory can simulate flying conditions at any altitude up to 12 to 15 miles and even higher. Scientists can peer through windows into the "deep freeze" chamber and watch how the wings or nose of a supersonic plane flying at extremely high altitudes and at a speed twice the speed of sound would "ice up."—United Press.

KING'S LIBERTY

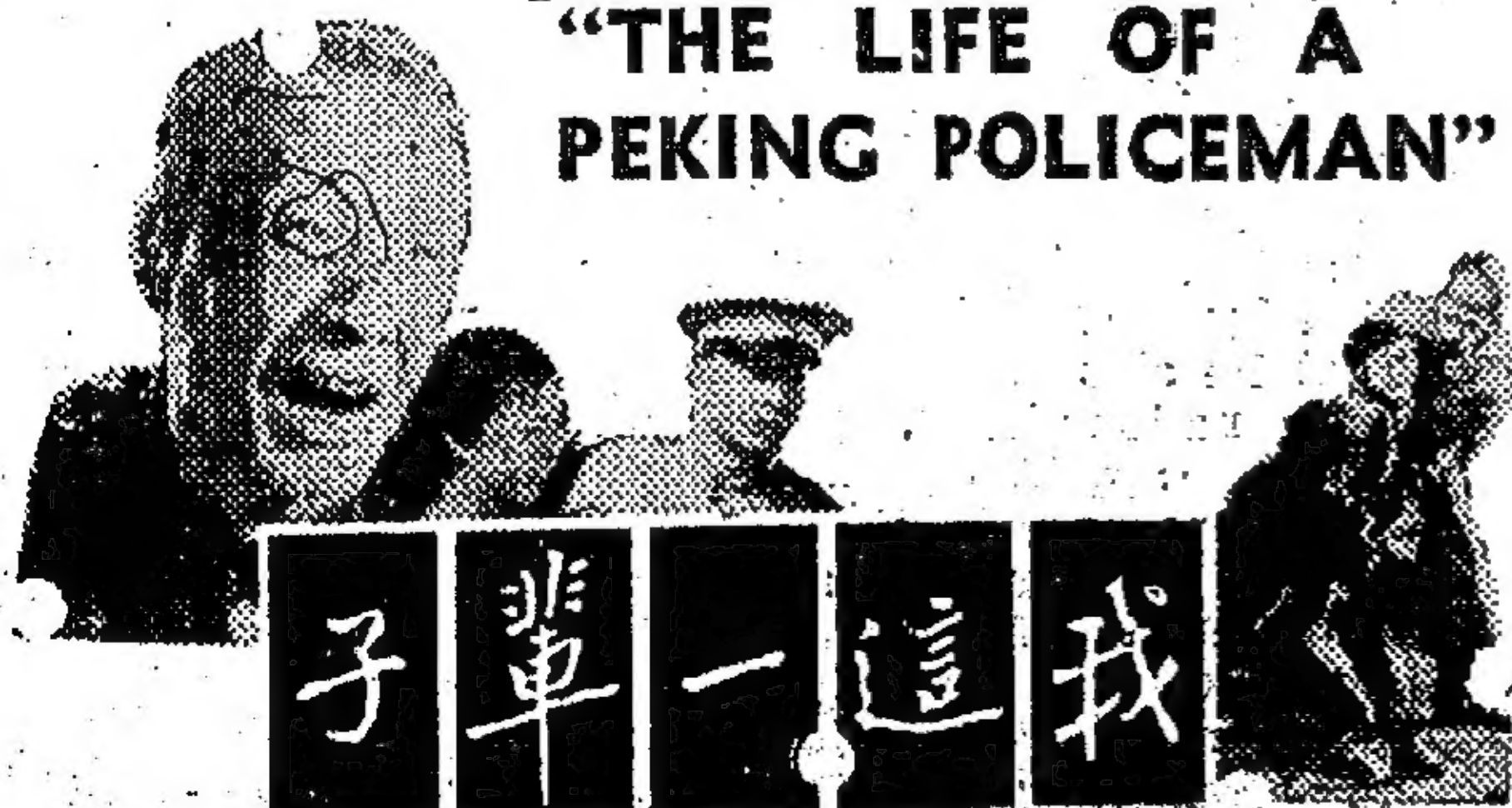
Air-Conditioned

4 SHOWS TO-DAY

AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20
& 9.30 P.M.

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& 9.30 P.M.

"THE LIFE OF A
PEKING POLICEMAN"



A Chinese Picture in Mandarin Dialogue

Imperial Cable Chief Awaited

London, Mar. 7.

Mr Ness Edwards, the Postmaster General, said today he was pressing other Commonwealth Governments to come to a decision urgently on the appointment of a chairman on the Imperial Telecommunications Board.

He had been asked in the House of Commons when the vacancy would be filled.

He added that under the Commonwealth Telegrams Agreement, the chairman of the Board was to be appointed jointly by the partner Governments, who were considering the matter.—Reuter.

SHARP CRITICISM OF INDIA ON KASHMIR POLICY

Lake Success, Mar. 7.

Mohammed Zafrullah Khan, the Pakistan Foreign Minister, told the Security Council today that ever since the Kashmir dispute arose repeated efforts had been made by the Government of Pakistan in direct negotiations with the Government of India to arrive at a just solution.

He said that immediately after the tribal incursions into Kashmir it was suggested to the Government of India on behalf of the Pakistan Government that the matter should be submitted to their respective Governors-General, who should issue an appeal for the restoration of law and order.

Pakistan undertook, if the appeal failed to secure the withdrawal of the tribesmen from Kashmir, to begin action jointly with India to expel them.

Once that had been done the administration of the State should be the responsibility of the two Governors-General.

He said that India had not agreed on the ground that it was not willing to invest its Governor-General with the needed authority.

Pakistan, however, had been ready to give such authority to its Governor-General.

WHOLLY UNREALISTIC

Mohammed Zafrullah Khan said that since that first attempt at a settlement many others had been made without avail. Therefore, it was a "wholly unrealistic suggestion" that the parties should be left to settle the matter by negotiation.

The Pakistan representative read a message from Sardar Mohammed Ibrahim Khan, former head of the Azad Kashmir Government, repudiating the statement attributed to him that Indo-Pakistan disputes would be settled between the two countries by mutual discussion.

Mohammed Zafrullah Khan then declared, "What India wants is to consolidate its hold on Kashmir and gradually alter the composition of the population by driving out more and more Muslims as refugees into Pakistan and settling Hindus and Sikhs in their place."

"It calls this process 'settling down' and does not want the Security Council or anybody else to disturb it. India resents any suggestion that it should lessen its hold in Kashmir."

He also said that the majority of the population of Kashmir were being held down by military force.—Reuter.

NOT HARD AND FAST

Both the United States and British delegations refused to discuss in detail the Pakistani amendments. They said the joint resolution was intended as a basis for discussion and not as a hard and fast proposal and they stressed that it was premature either to reject or accept the amendments.

Both delegations, as well as other Council members, privately deplore the fact that both India and Pakistan had recourse to bitter accusations against each other in the course of discussion.

Sir Zafrullah ended with the warning that "horrors" might occur in that part of the world if the dispute were not settled justly. He apologised to Sir Benegal Rau of India, for whom he said he had the highest esteem, and the Council for expressions "that may have slipped," saying it was hard to exercise complete restraint in the matter.

Sir Benegal notified the President that he needed extra time to prepare his reply to Sir Zafrullah's speech.—United Press.

Harlan, Iowa, Mar. 7.

John Jahnke, 50, amateur radio operator, liked to demonstrate electrical devices to his sons. "These wires are hot but not hot enough to kill," he said as he pointed to the transmitter. He touched the wires and was electrocuted.—United Press.

Churchill Fails In Snap Vote

London, Mar. 7.

Mr Winston Churchill, back in the House of Commons after his recent illness, challenged the Government in a snap vote today but the Government won by 14 votes—257 to 243.

The vote was a procedural one. The Government wanted a debate on its East African groundnuts scheme to go on all night, if necessary, but the Conservatives objected.

Mr Churchill has been confined to his home for a week with boils.—Reuter.

RUSSIA'S MILITARY BUDGET

Moscow, Mar. 7.

The Minister of Finance, Krseny Zverev, presented to the Soviet Parliament today the 1951 budget of 451,403,000,000 roubles, of which 21.3 percent was earmarked for military purposes.

Military appropriations for 1950 comprised 18.5 percent of the budget.

Military appropriations in the 1951 budget was 96,376,000,000 roubles.

Russia has set the exchange value of the rouble arbitrarily at four to one dollar United States currency. This rate does not accurately reflect the value of the rouble because there is very little exchange. But under this rate of 4:1, Russia's military budget for 1951 would be equivalent to \$23,094,000,000.

An "Izvestia" editorial commenting on the budget said:

"While the budgets of countries in the imperialist camp impose unbearable tax burdens on the taxpayers and allocate colossal expenditures in the preparation of war and the suppression of the liberation movement in colonial and semi-colonial areas, the Soviet budget testifies the peaceful aspirations of the Soviet people and its effort to defend the peace of the whole world."—United Press.

BEST NOT TO SPECULATE

Washington, Mar. 7.

The United States believed the meeting of the Big Four Foreign Ministers' deputies in Paris afforded an opportunity for a serious, careful and deliberate approach to an examination of the causes of differences between Russia and the West, the Acting Secretary of State, Mr James Webb, said today.

Reporters asked if he was optimistic about the prospects of the deputies agreeing on an agenda for the proposed meeting of their Foreign Ministers.

He replied that the meeting was still in its very early stages and it was best not to speculate.—Reuter.

BIG FOUR EXCHANGE CHARGES

Little Progress Made Towards Agreement On Proposed Agenda

Preparing For Emergencies

London, Mar. 7.
Sixty ships are to be brought out of reserve to serve with the active British fleet this year, Mr James Callaghan, Parliamentary Secretary to the Admiralty, said today.

He told the House of Commons that they would include two destroyers, two frigates, three submarines, eight ocean and seagoing minesweepers, two fast minelayers and 21 smaller craft.

Mr Callaghan, who was replying to questions, said that dual purpose weapons for the defensive armament of merchant ships had been accumulated and were suitably distributed throughout Britain and the Commonwealth.

He was satisfied that the stocks of these guns were adequate.—Reuter.

Allied Naval Base Investigation

Villefranche, Mar. 7.
A Western military commission, including Admiral Robert Carney, United States Naval Commander in the East Atlantic, will visit Villefranche this month to examine its suitability as a possible Atlantic Pact naval base, authoritative sources said here today.

Naples was also mentioned as a port to be inspected for the same purpose.
The inspection here would coincide with a visit by the American fleet now on manoeuvres in the Mediterranean.—Reuter.

Yugoslav Envoy

Belgrade, Mar. 7.
Dr Obrad Cicmil, a Deputy Yugoslav Foreign Minister and former Ambassador in London, has been appointed Yugoslav envoy to Pakistan, Tanjug, the Yugoslav news agency, reported today.—Reuter.



END OF THE PARTY.—When a gas explosion ripped through this American home during a gay birthday party, 12 persons were injured. The host and 11 of his relatives suffered serious injuries in the blast which was caused by natural gas and ended the party sooner than had been planned.

Gromyko Accuses Allies Of Supporting Hitlerites

Paris, Mar. 7.

The Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr Andrei Gromyko, exchanged accusation and counter-accusation with the three Western deputies over the failure to reach agreement on an Austrian peace treaty here today.

The deputies of the Big Four Foreign Ministers, meeting to pave the way for a conference of the Ministers themselves, spent over three hours on the Austrian treaty question.

Mr Gromyko wanted the Austrian peace treaty on the Foreign Ministers' agenda—which the deputies are discussing—but insisted that it must be linked with Trieste which he accused the Western Powers of turning into a military and naval base.

In doing so, he declared, they had violated their obligation under the Italian peace treaty which laid down that Trieste—still occupied by British and American forces—should be a free territory under the Security Council.

If the Western Powers had violated their obligations in regard to Trieste how could Russia be sure that they would not turn Austria into a military base?

COUNTER CHARGE

Dr Philip Jessup (United States) denied that the Western Powers had violated the Italian peace treaty and suggested that Russia might profitably turn its attention to fulfilling its obligations under the peace treaties with Hungary, Bulgaria and Rumania.

Mr Ernest Davies (Britain) said that he could only conclude from the line taken by the Soviet delegation that Russia wished to prevent the completion of an Austrian peace treaty.

The French deputy, M. Alexandre Parodi, denied a suggestion by Mr Gromyko that the French did not wish to include the question of the demilitarisation of Germany on the agenda.

Mr Gromyko, in his turn, rejected the accusation that it was the Soviet Union that was holding up an Austrian settlement.

He accused the Western Powers of trying to frame such a treaty that Austria would fall to those who had supported Hitler. He added that such people were today raising their heads in the Western zones of Austria.

GERMAN ARMS

On the question of German arms, Mr Gromyko asked, "Would not a reaffirmation of the prohibition of German rearmament be better than an Austrian treaty for removing the causes of tension in Europe?"

Dr Jessup noted with satisfaction Soviet willingness to discuss Austria saying, "The West attaches great importance to this question."

He added that if the Russians proposed the inclusion of Trieste on the agenda as a separate item this suggestion would receive consideration.

M. Parodi, supporting Dr Jessup, stressed that the Western Powers were very anxious that the Austrian treaty should be finally concluded.

This, he said, materially help to relieve existing tension in Europe and would create an encouraging atmosphere for improving relations between the Great Powers.

LESS STRAINED

Questioned about today's conference a Western spokesman said that the atmosphere was less strained than yesterday's.

The arguments were a little more direct, but he could not say that the conference "is very far advanced."

He said that Mr Gromyko had argued in a "curiously artificial fashion" in trying to link the question of an Austrian treaty with the Italian treaty and Trieste.

Meanwhile, conference observers agree that the question of including the Austrian treaty in the agenda is likely to remain in suspense during the present four-Power negotiations.

Mr Gromyko implied that he would not commit himself until it became clearer whether Russia could extract some price on a favourable decision.

It is learned that Mr Gromyko said on the first day of the meeting that he was ready only to discuss placing the Austrian treaty on the Big Four's agenda and not, as some reports suggested, that he agreed in principle to its inclusion.

The Austrian Foreign Minister, Dr Karl Gruber, who is in Paris ostensibly to attend Friday's meeting of the Organisation for European Economic Co-Operation, is expected to meet Mr Davies.

Dr Jessup, in the first of his two speeches yesterday, emphasised that the question of an Austrian treaty must be included in the causes of tension between the Great Powers in Europe which must be settled if agreement was to be reached.—Reuter.

Iraqi Protest On Morocco

Baghdad, Mar. 7.

The Iraqi Parliament today passed a protest against France's "aggressive, brutal and unjust treatment of Arabs in Morocco" and sent it to the United Nations Security Council requesting immediate action.

The President of the Parliament sent a message to the Arab League urging members and the League Council to take decisive measures to effect French economic trade and cultural interests in the Arab world.

Political parties, lawyers, Press associations and religious leaders have sent telegrams of protest to the United Nations and the Western Powers.

Mohamed Mahdi Kuba, a member of Iraq's Istiqlal Party, declared, "Arabs must stand for the defence of freedom and independence and the just rights of the Moroccans. France is enslaving and torturing our brethren."—Reuter.

Employees' Petition

Buenos Aires, Mar. 7.

Employees of the boycotted independent newspaper La Prensa sent a petition to President Peron today asking him to guarantee their right to work. The workers asked President Peron's personal intervention in the dispute with the news vendors union which closed the big daily newspaper 41 days ago.

The petition was presented 48 hours before the Central Committee of the Government-sponsored General Confederation of Labour was scheduled to act on the recommendations of several unions that the Government take over La Prensa.

The publisher, Alberto Mainza Paz, meanwhile awaited further word from the Government on its announced intention of charging him with violating national security laws.—United Press.

Juin Flies To Paris

Casablanca, Mar. 7.

General Alphonse Juin, French Resident-General in Morocco, who is tipped for a high post in the Atlantic Army, left here by air today for Paris.

Observers here said that General Juin's talks in the capital would concern the organisation of the Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Powers, Europe, and the present situation in Morocco.—Reuter.

They Pulled Up Their Socks

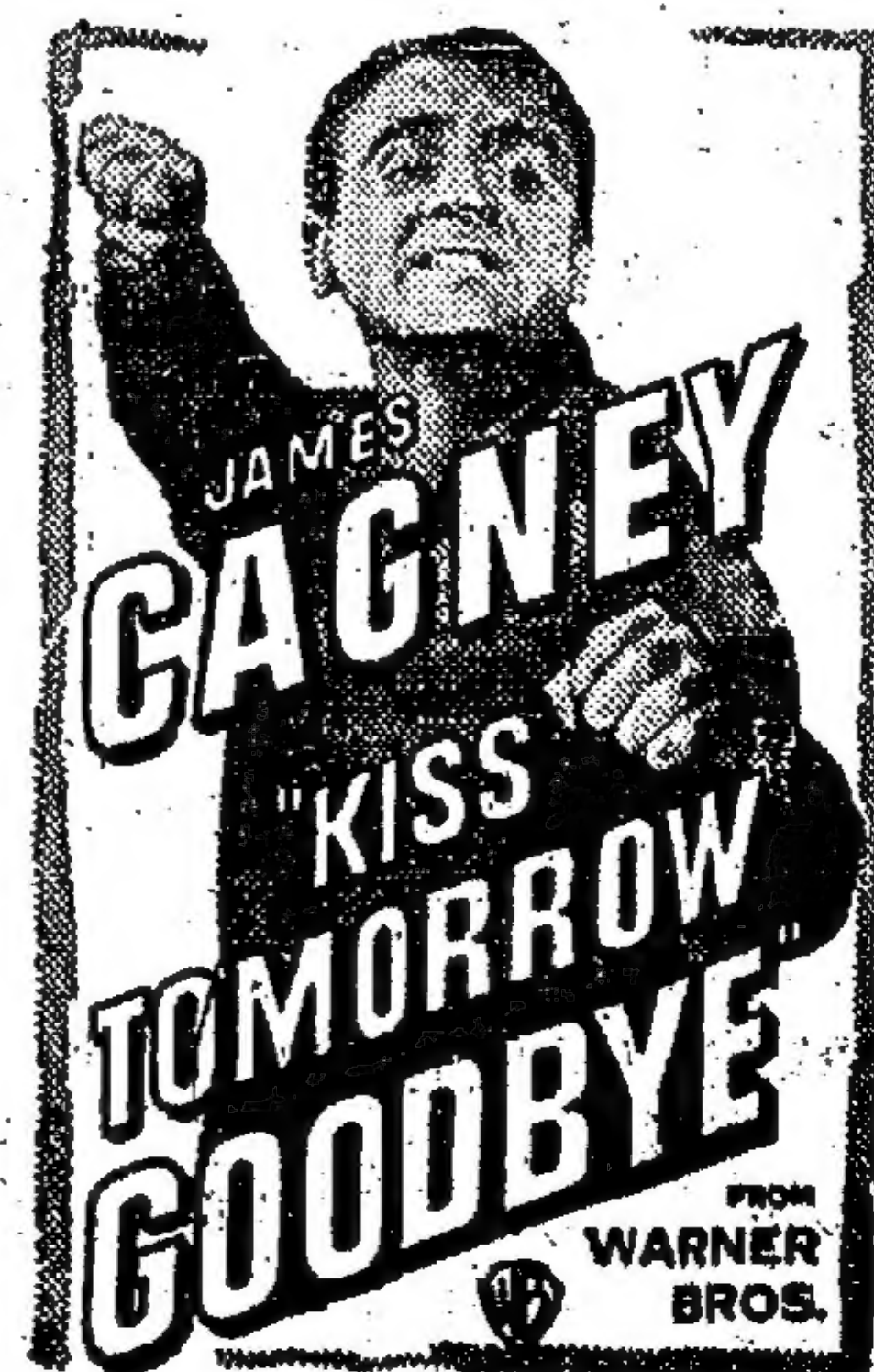
Korea, Mar. 7.

United States infantrymen were faced with a sock shortage today, but it did not take the Air Force long to end it.

The GIs had no more dry socks left after fighting through rivers of mud, and a huge C-119 Flying Boxcar flew over the 24th Division area and dropped 25,000 pairs of new woollen socks.—United Press.

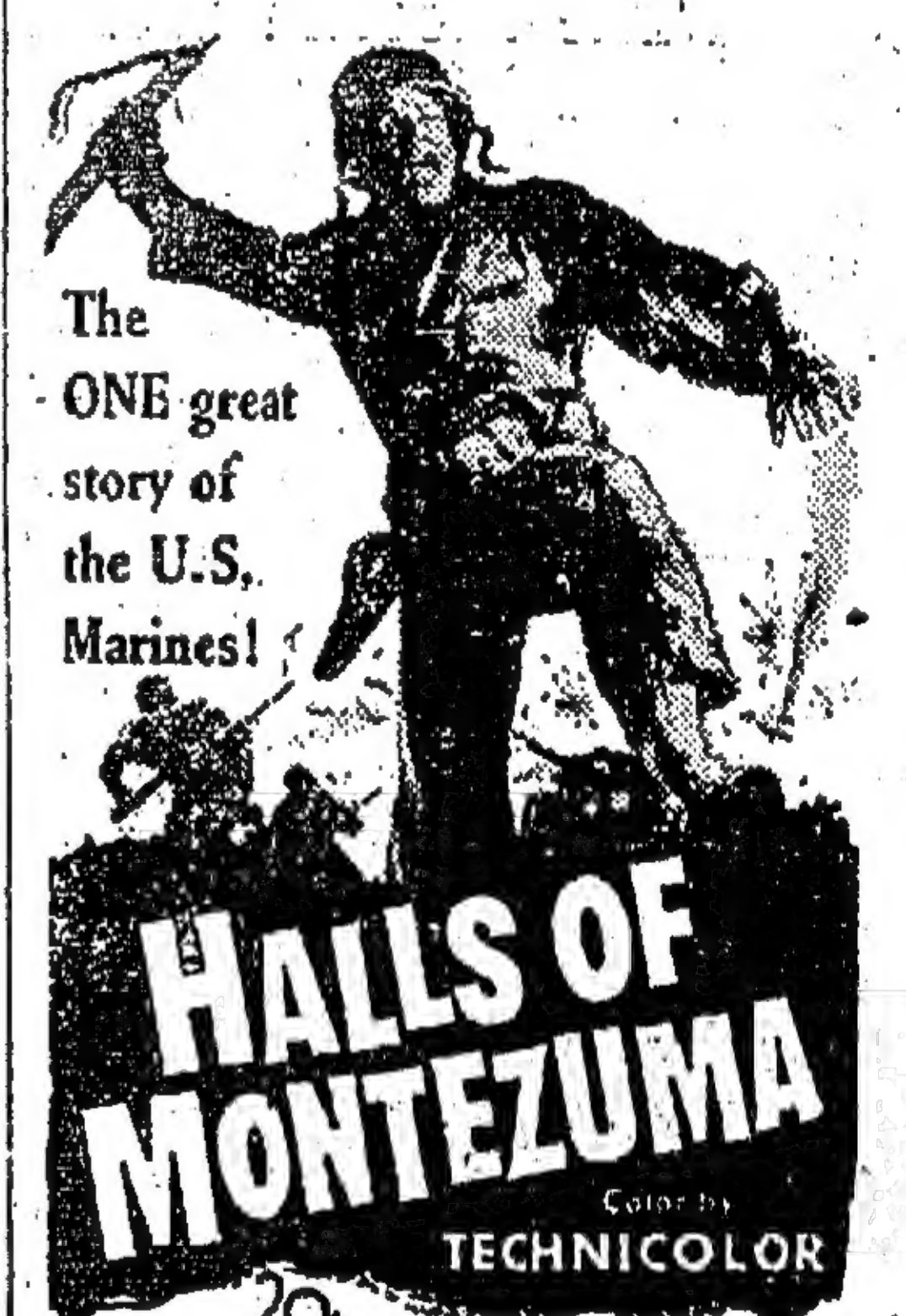
Queen's

— SHOWING TO-DAY —
2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M.



ROXY

GALA PREMIERE
TO-NIGHT
AT 9.45 P.M.



starting
RICHARD WIDMARK

AND A CAST OF THOUSANDS
HISTORY'S FINEST HOUR
IN HEROISM!!
5 SHOWS DAILY FROM
FRIDAY TO SUNDAY
(9TH TO 11TH MARCH)
AT 12.00 NOON, 2.30, 5.15,
7.20 & 9.30 P.M.

LAST 3 SHOWS TO-DAY
AT 2.15, 4.45 & 7.15 P.M.



THESE SOLDIERS ARE RIDING THEIR FOOD



South Korean soldiers are riding the livestock they have procured for eating, as they move along muddy roads. Lucky refugees will undoubtedly be given a share in the bovine loot, but they will never recognise it as a possible former possession.

Moslems Rally To Support Of Morocco Nationalists

London, Mar. 7.

The Moslem world from Egypt to Pakistan was rallying today in support of the nationalist movement in Morocco which has plunged France into a diplomatic crisis with all Arab States.

The crisis broke nine days ago when General Alphonse Juin, the French Governor-General of Morocco, took direct action against the Istiqlal nationalist party which has long agitated for freedom from French colonial rule.

From the capitals of Pakistan, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Egypt there had been reports of mounting resentment and demonstrations held outside French embassies and legations. In Paris, the French Foreign Minister, M. Robert Schuman, was said to have summoned the

Egyptian Ambassador, Mr Ahmed Sariot, and asked him for an explanation of the increasing campaign against the French in Morocco.

Cairo reports said mass meetings of Arab organisations had demanded that the Moroccan issues be raised immediately in the United Nations. A meeting of the Arab League was said to have been called for Saturday to decide what action should be taken.

In Beirut, Lebanese students were reported to be demonstrating before the French Legation, shouting, "Down with France! Hands off Morocco."

PAKISTAN CALL

In Damascus, the Syrian Parliament was said to have registered a protest against French "aggression" and to have pledged support for the Istiqlal Party in Morocco.

A Moslem youth organisation in Karachi called for Pakistani volunteers to join the Moroccan nationalists in their "fight for freedom."

Moslem organisations everywhere have decided that March 9 should be observed as "Morocco Day" with special prayers and "peaceful demonstration" to protest against "the cruelties perpetrated on our Moslem brethren."

The flare-up in Morocco coincided with Persia being plunged into turmoil through the assassination of Premier Razmara, and mounting Moslem indignation against India's alleged "imperialistic" intentions towards Kashmir.—United Press.

ORAN ROUND-UP

Oran, Mar. 7. Following the sentencing yesterday of 47 members of the Nationalist Algerian People's Party, 20 persons were ques-

tioned by the police today. One was the local secretary of the Communist-led General Confederation of Labour. Only two persons were detained.

The present round-up is of persons who took part in an Algerian separatist movement which trained its members in the use of arms. Since March last year numerous arms dumps have been discovered throughout Algeria.

Demonstrators sang the Algerian People's Party song and clashed with the police yesterday when 47 members of the party were sentenced to one to six years' imprisonment for acts against the security of the State.

M. Elie Angonin, Secretary-General of the Algerian Trades Unions Confederation, was then detained but was released after an identity check.

Sentences of one to six years' imprisonment were passed on 28 separatists at Bougie a fortnight ago and others are still awaiting trial at Algiers and Bona.—Reuter.

INQUIRY REQUESTED

Casablanca, Mar. 7.

The Rabat Prosecutions Department has sent a request to Tangiers on behalf of the Ministry of Justice for an inquiry into alleged dissemination of "false news" about "disorders" in Morocco which had originated from there.

The request empowers the Tangiers Magistrature and the police to make the necessary investigations. A similar inquiry opened in Rabat yesterday following articles in Morocco in Egyptian newspapers which were described by the French Foreign Office as "without foundation."—Reuter.

Diamond Prices To Go Up

Johannesburg, Mar. 7.

Diamond prices are to go up immediately, it was announced today by the Diamond Trading Company and Industrial Distributors (Sales) Limited.

The effect of the increases is, on the average, to bring the new prices in sterling to full parity with prices in dollars ruling before the devaluation of sterling.—Reuter.

Controversy Over Voting Measure

Capetown, Mar. 7.

Amid Government cheers, Dr T. E. Donges, South African Minister of the Interior, gave notice in Parliament today that he would ask leave tomorrow to introduce the controversial Representation of Non-Europeans Bill.

The Bill seeks to remove coloured voters from the common roll in the Cape Province and Natal, and to place them on a separate roll. They will continue to be represented by European Members in the House of Assembly.

Leaders of the non-European community in Capetown announced that a procession against the measure would parade through the city streets tomorrow evening.

The Minister of Justice, Mr Charles Swart, stated today that the police had been instructed to take steps unhesitatingly against disturbances, menaces to the peace and law-breaking.

He told the public that in the event of disorder they should not interfere but leave the maintenance of law and order altogether in the hands of the police.

"The Government trusts, however, that everything will pass off peacefully and that no untoward incidents will occur," he added.

There was no objection to legitimate gatherings and processions in connection with protests against the Bill provided

TEHERAN MURDER REACTION

London, Mar. 7.

The assassination of the Persian Prime Minister, General Ali Razmara, has caused concern among officials here because it may prejudice the approval of a new oil agreement with Britain.

General Razmara was regarded as a champion of the existing oil arrangements under which the British Government owns a big interest in Persian oil.

Recently he publicly opposed proposals backed by a sizable section in the Majlis (Persian Parliament) to nationalise the oil interests. He backed the present agreement between the Persian Government and the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company as beneficial to both countries.

Observers here fear that the assassination may strengthen the forces pressing for nationalisation.—Reuter.

SERIOUS LOSS

Washington, Mar. 7.

The Acting Secretary of State, Mr James Webb, today described the assassination of General Ali Razmara as a serious loss to the cause of freedom and social justice in the world.

In a statement read to a Press conference today, Mr Webb said: "I wish to express the State Department's profound shock at the assassination of the Persian Prime Minister, General Ali Razmara. The Prime Minister was devoted to maintaining the independence of his country and to accomplishing social and economic reforms in the face of great difficulties."

"His brutal murder is a serious loss to the cause of freedom and social justice in the world."—Reuter.

NEHRU'S MESSAGE

New Delhi, Mar. 7.

The Indian Prime Minister, Pandit Nehru, today sent a message to the Persian Foreign Minister expressing India's and his own "sense of profound shock at the dastardly assassination" of General Ali Razmara and conveying sympathy to the Premier's family.—Reuter.

SON IN U.S.

Syracuse, New York, Mar. 7.

The son of the assassinated Persian Premier, General Ali Razmara, is a student at Syracuse University. The youth, 20-year-old Novbat Razmara, entered Syracuse College of Mechanical Engineering last autumn.

The University said that it had not been able to locate the student and did not know if he had been notified of his father's death.—Reuter.

Nationalist Outburst In Nigeria

Lagos, Nigeria, Mar. 7.

The Nationalist leader, Nkambi Azikiwe, declared today that the Nationalists of British and French territories in South Africa had agreed among themselves to settle accounts with Dr Daniel Malan, the South African Prime Minister, when they gained their freedom.

In a Budget speech in the Assembly, Dr Azikiwe expressed "horror at the disgraceful and unchristian policy of apartheid" (segregation of races) in the "godless country" of South Africa.

"Whether Dr Malan likes it or not, the Nationalists of British and French Tropical Africa have agreed among ourselves, that on attaining freedom, we shall have an account to settle with the Union of South Africa over the issue of hegemony on the continent of South Africa."—Reuter.

they did not develop into threats against the public peace, he said.—Reuter.

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WORLD SITUATION REVIEWED BY MENZIES IN CANBERRA DEBATE

Canberra, Mar. 7.

The Australian Prime Minister, Mr Robert G. Menzies, back from a tour of half the world, told Parliament today that the Kashmir dispute was neutralising the whole Indian sub-continent in the growing world conflict.

Kashmir was only a small country of four and a half million people in a sub-continent of 450 million, the Prime Minister said, "but a year ago very few people imagined that incidents in remote Korea could have brought us to the verge of a great war and involved the United States alone in casualties associated with a major conflict."

The Premier was reporting on his overseas tour, which included the Commonwealth talks in London.

As long as the Kashmir dispute remained unsettled, it would be provocative and dangerous, Mr Menzies added.

It would be full of the gravest menace to Australia not only because of its influence on the world generally but because of its immediate effect upon the security of the Middle East.

From his talks with the leaders of the countries concerned, there was no reason to believe that, assuming a common desire and goodwill, the dispute could not be settled, he said.

The Opposition leader, Mr Joseph B. Chifley, said that the emergence of India and Pakistan as independent nations, made a very great difference to the viewpoints which might be expressed at a Prime Ministers' Conference such as that attended by Mr Menzies.

Any move that India made would ultimately be followed by Pakistan and Ceylon, he added.

"If Britain had not given India, Pakistan and Ceylon the right of self-government and self-determination, the whole of the East would be aflame today," he said.

GREAT FALLACY

It would be wrong for the Western Powers, when envisaging policies for Asia, to take any political action that was going to provoke India, Pakistan or Ceylon, Mr Chifley continued.

There was no greater fallacy than to say that every spot of trouble was due to Communism. "I do not give this as my personal opinion but as the opinion of many men in world affairs justly qualified to give an opinion," he said.

To imagine that all the troubles in the East were due to Communism was also a fallacy. "All the radical revolutionary movements in those countries do not come from so-called wage-slaves (lower working class) but from the intelligentsia."

"Most of the advisers and leaders of the Eastern peoples are men who have been educated at European universities," he added.

Mr Chifley said that the Government should not think or act in the belief that Communism could be defeated merely by saying that "it was opposed to Communism."

The External Affairs Minister, Mr Percy Spender, had participated in the Commonwealth Colombo Conference for economic aid to South and South-East Asia, he pointed out.

This was only a drop in the ocean, but it was an earnest act of goodwill. "Let us not forget

that only by keeping down the evils on which Communism spreads can we finally destroy it."

GREATEST MISTAKE

Mr Chifley said that the greatest mistake made by the democracies was their refusal to admit the Chinese People's Government to the United Nations.

The External Affairs Ministry asked why Labour had not recognised the new China when Labour was in office. Mr Chifley replied that elections were pending and he considered a decision was for the incoming Government.

Labour would have supported the admission of the Chinese Government to the United Nations but the Australian Government, in spite of the manifesto issued from the Prime Ministers' Conference, had persisted in the "stupid folly" of being a party to non-recognition.

Mr Chifley said that he did not believe a world conflict would arise from the position in Asia or in the Far East if reasonable commonsense were applied.

The Prime Minister, Mr Menzies, in his long survey of international affairs based on his observations on his way home from the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference in London, made these points:

Europe: A great deal of time was needed, with a great resurrection of morale, if Western Germany, France and the Low Countries, aided by Britain and the United States, were to be in any posture of defence.

"Subject only to atomic reprisals, the Communists could score fast and heavily because of their ground and air superiority, and might assume with speed the same mastery of Europe as Hitler achieved in 1940."

GRAVE POSITION

Middle East: The position was gravely disturbing. A base, or bases, in the Middle East was an essential element in the security of the democracies.

Mr Menzies said that in France, where the Communists were an immensely powerful minority, great changes would be necessary before that once powerful nation again became strong.

The Communists had made considerable progress in atomic research, assisted spectacularly in recent years by some treasonable scientists from the Western world.

The more such progress the Communists made, the more

confident they became that in an atomic war they could give as well as they could take.

In his reference to the Middle East, Mr Menzies said that there was widespread agitation there which found expression in the Egyptian Government's policy for the British forces to evacuate the Suez Canal Zone. The significance of the warm waters of the Mediterranean made a base or bases in the Middle East an essential element in the security of the democracies.—Reuter.

MACARTHUR WARNING ANALYSED

Washington, Mar. 7.

Some Senators today interpreted General MacArthur's warning of a possible military stalemate in Korea as an urgent plea for clarification of his operational orders from the United Nations. Legislators expressed some doubts as to what precisely General MacArthur was referring to in his suggestion for "more freedom". Some thought it was a request for authority to bomb Communist supply bases in Manchuria.

Senator Alexander Smith (Republican) said the General apparently sought more "straightforward" support in the UN and possibly diplomatic and economic sanctions against Red China. Senator Smith also believed that if General MacArthur sought authority to bomb north of the Yalu River in Manchuria it should be granted.

Senator John McClellan (Democrat) said it "didn't make sense" to carry on operations in Korea without bombing Red supply dumps and communication lines in Manchuria. "It places not only our military leaders at a disadvantage but increases the sacrifices which must be made by our troops," he said.

Senator Pat McCarran (Democrat) said General MacArthur's statement indicates he has been directed not to push American troops across the 38th Parallel into Northern Korea. He said that without such authority and ability to bomb Manchuria the Korean operation means "indefinite chasing up and down the Korean peninsula at the cost of American lives and without final victory."—United Press.

Just Taking The Cure



Dr Schoenert, a veterinarian in Frankfurt, has invented something that may cause great happiness among dogs. Called the "climate chamber," the vet claims it can cure dogs of colds, arthritis and other blood infections. Here, Semta, a cocker spaniel with arthritis, gets the chamber treatment while his mistress and Dr Schoenert look on.

Troops For Europe Approved

Washington, Mar. 7.

Two Senate Committees today approved sending American troops to Europe after turning down Republican demands that Congress pass a law fixing policy.

The action by the combined Foreign Relations and Armed Services Committees in effect approved President Truman's plans to send more American troops into the international peace-keeping army.

After final and formal action on the entire resolution on Thursday, it will be ready for full Senate action.—United Press.

Thai Troops For Korea

Bangkok, Mar. 7.

A contingent of an estimated 100 Thai troops sailed this morning for Japan to replace Thai casualties in the Korean war.

Some 30 war casualties, mostly victims of frostbite, are under treatment in the Army hospital here. A hospital annex is under construction in anticipation of new arrivals from Korea.—United Press.

General Implicated In Plot

Prague, Mar. 7.

General Zdenk Novak, army commander in Moravia, has been arrested in connection with the alleged plot to overthrow the Communist regime led by the former Foreign Minister, Vladimir Clementis, reliable sources said today.

The sources said that Novak, 60, a regular Army soldier who led a party of underground fighters against the German during the occupation, was arrested last year in a general round-up of Party, Government and Army officials in Moravia.

They said that Novak, whose headquarters were in Brno, where Otto Sling, alleged to be co-leader of the plot, was head of the district party organisation, had been head of the plotting in the Czech Army.—United Press.

Houses Collapse

Algiers, Mar. 7.

Thirty houses, undermined by the recent heavy rains in a village on the northern edge of the Sahara Desert, collapsed today, killing two people and injuring 20 others.

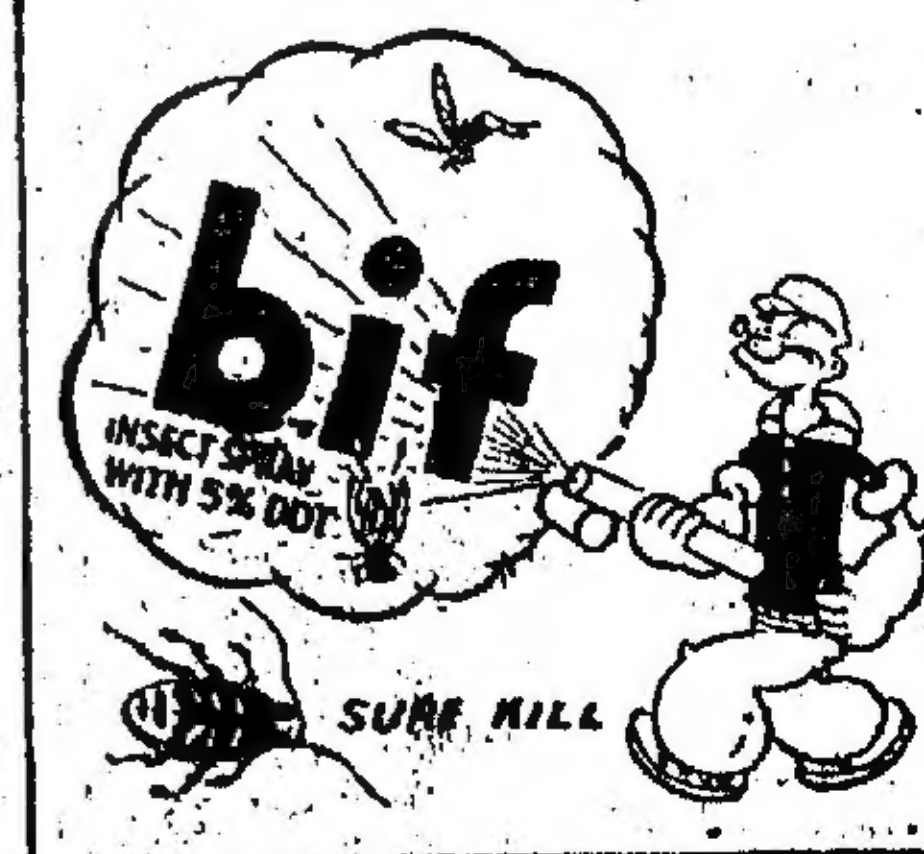
The village lies between Biskra and Touggourt, Algeria.—Reuter.

NANCY

Facing the Issue



When there's bif
I needn't use my fist!



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NEXT IS DAVE SANDS



Randolph Turpin (right) shakes hands with Luc van Dam, the Champion of Holland, after the weigh-in before their fight at the Harringay Arena for the European Middleweight Championship.

Turpin won on a knockout, the whole fight lasting 48 seconds. Next opponent for Turpin is Dave Sands, the Australian, and then, probably, "Sugar Ray" Robinson, the Middleweight Champion of the World.

Robinson on his recent European tour took four rounds to dispose of Van Dam and considered him Europe's best middleweight.—Central Press Photo.

Randolph Turpin Would Have Done As Well On French Rules

By ARCHIE QUICK

Behind the scenes of Randolph Turpin's sensational 48 seconds victory at Harringay, London, to win the European Middleweight Championship from Dutchman Lucien Van Dam, lies the story of an unprecedented boxing tangle.

The referee, Monsieur Scheman, of France, arrived in London and at the weigh-in calmly announced that he was going to control the fight according to "French rules"—whatever that might mean. It was believed to be something to do with the taking up of the count and the no foul rule. It was a somewhat naive statement, seeing that he was selected for the contest by the European Boxing Association of which Great Britain and France are both members.

Anyhow, to forestall any complications, promoter Jack Solomons had him whisked away to the offices of the British Boxing Board of Control where the Secretary, ex-referee Teddy Waltham, went to some pains to explain things to Monsieur Scheman.

Mr Waltham and the promoter need not have bothered. Randolph saved them the trouble by flattening the man from Rotterdam with a right, left, right before the long suffering paying customers had had time to realise what they were seeing for their guineas. It was the perfect knockout of a man who recently extended "Sugar Ray" Robinson for four rounds, but I still say that Turpin must not yet be matched with the American. Interesting sidelight was that Van Dam's trainer was his wife!

In the succeeding contest, Cruiserweight Champion Don Cockrell took only 35 seconds to knock out the American negro,

Lloyd Marshall, conqueror of Tommy Farr and Freddie Mills, but I do not attach the same importance to the effort as Turpin's feat. Cockrell was 11½lbs. overweight and Marshall put up no semblance of a show. He went down to the first blow he received.

The strange thing to me was that the bout was billed as at 12st. 10lb. Cockrell was 12st 11½lbs. but paid no forfeit! I asked his manager, John Simpson, about this, and he said: "We have discovered there was no weight clause in the contract! That is a new one on me."

Almost unnoticed in view of these sensations went the knockout victory of Terry Ratcliffe, of Bristol, over Scottish Champion Bill Rattray, of Glasgow. Ratcliffe has been boxing as a professional less than a year, yet I am convinced that he, and not Eddle Thomas, is Great Britain's hope for the World Welterweight Championship. He has everything.

100,000 WILL WITNESS FA AMATEUR CUP FINAL AT WEMBLEY THIS YEAR

Says HAROLD MAYES

London.

The Amateur Final record crowd of 95,000 set up when Bromley met Romford in 1949, will, incidentally, be beaten this year. A Wembley official told me that regardless of the clubs competing it is already obvious that they'll reach the 100,000 figure for the event this season.

If you happen to be one of those fortunate people who always get a Cup Final ticket—and there are some—don't go planning your dates too far ahead. By that I mean don't take it for granted that because you've always looked at your Wembley spectacle in April that you'll go on doing it.

Next year, as a matter of fact, the FA Cup final will take place in May for the first time, on the date formerly used for staging the Rugby League Cup Final.

Sir Stanley Rous and Rugby League counterpart Bill Fallowfield have been ironing out a problem which has been causing concern to the thirteen-a-side folk for some time.

The match in which they show their wares to the Rugby Union—conscious Southerners has invariably been shorn of some of its lustre because either or both of the competing teams have had their best players on the boat Australia-tour bound.

Bill approached the FA secretary with a view to doing a switch to bring forward the RL date. Result is that the 1952 Rugby League Final will be played on the last Saturday but one in April next year with the FA Amateur Cup Final one week later,—on this year's Cup Final date—with the Cup Final on the last day of the Soccer season.

Which takes us one step further towards an FA Cup Final played on a day when there is no other big Soccer, something for which the League clubs have been pressing for years. It could be just round the corner.

CAP FOR BOLTON WINGER?

Free-spending Newcastle United had Doherty-like hopes for 18-year-old Jimmy Coulter when they paid Linfield £10,000 for him last October. Now he's been weakened by a heavy dose of flu and a dash of home sickness and they've had to abandon their hopes for this term at least.

The youngster has been sent home and told not to kick a football again until next season. Life is a good deal more rosy for another young Irishman, Bolton's 20-year-old winger, Billy Hughes, a brother of the Glentoran centre-forward.

Billy went to Burnden two years ago and has made such rapid strides in this his first campaign in senior Soccer that you can gamble on his appearance in Ireland's line up.

NO MORE "SOFT" HANDS

French lightweight Pierre Montane, who kayoed Billy Thompson to capture the European title, owes his new lease of boxing life to doctors—English doctors.

He suffered from "soft" hands, and after damaging a hand in his earlier fight with Thompson almost decided to quit. His manager, Eugene Huat, former European bantam champion, took him to Charing Cross Hospital, where they did such a good job

on the hand that he has had practically no further trouble with it.

Britain's Olympic and world cycling chances look like being improved considerably in the next few months. There's little doubt that on March 17 the National Cyclists' Union will decide to put into being at once the complete Olympic committee plan of 1948, which brought such success. As I've said before it can't come too soon.

There's also a decided swing towards massed start events on closed roads, which would give our long-distance men the opportunity of competing regularly under championship conditions. I'm told that there's one company prepared to spend between £5,000 and £7,000 sponsoring an international Belfast-Inniskilling-Londonderry-Belfast massed race from July 21-23, and that's only a beginning. But it's certainly the right sort of start.

Wales Beats Ireland 2-1 In Soccer International

Belfast, Northern Ireland, Mar. 7.

Wales beat Ireland in a soccer international here today by two goals to one and so relegated the Irishmen to the bottom place in the international table.

Ireland have lost all three of their internationals this season, while Wales were beaten twice before today. England and Scotland, who each beat Ireland and Wales, have yet to meet to decide the Home International Championship.

Conditions today were bad, with play beginning in drizzling rain and a bad light. Ireland were the first to attack after winning the toss but Wales went ahead after eight minutes when

Clarke scored after a defensive blunder.

They led by that score at half-time but had survived one or two dangerous raids by the home side.

CARRIED ON

Hinton, Ireland's goalkeeper, dislocated a finger when in collision just before the interval, but it was put in place by the trainer and he carried on in goal.

Seven minutes after the interval, Ireland were level, Simpson heading in a perfect goal from Graham's centre.

Attacks at both ends were beaten off by good defensive moves, though Kinsey, of Wales, once hit the post following a free kick by Burgess from the edge of the penalty area.

A draw seemed certain as the minutes ticked away but with four minutes left Clarke netted a deciding goal with a first-time shot after receiving from Ford, who was always doing good work.—Reuter.

OTHER RESULTS

The following were the results of other football matches played today:

First Division

Huddersfield Town 3, Sunderland 4. (This match was postponed from February 24).

Third Division (Northern)

Tranmere Rovers 2, Mansfield Town 1. (This match was postponed from February 27).—Reuter.

Rugger Results

London, Mar. 7.

The following were the results of Rugby Union games played today:

Exeter 0, Oxford University 6. Maestrag 3, Llanelli 0. London University 8, Eastern Counties Wanderers 5.

ARMY CUP FINAL

First Training Regiment, Royal Signals, Catterick, 9, First Guards Independent Paratroop Regiment, Aldershot, 6.—Reuter.

Davidsson Beats Budge Patty

Cairo, Mar. 7.

Sweden's young star, Sven Davidsson, pulled the biggest upset of the Egyptian International Lawn Tennis Championships today when he beat the Wimbledon Champion, Budge Patty of the United States, 6-1, 12-10, 6-2 in the quarter-final.

In the other quarter-final match, Felicísimo Ampon of the Philippines beat Robert Abdeslam of France 2-6, 7-5, 6-1, 6-2.—United Press.

GOOD ROW BY OXFORD OVER FULL COURSE

London, Mar. 7.

Oxford University had a good row over the full boat-race course from Putney to Mortlake today in 20 minutes and 26 seconds. This was 20 secs. faster than the time returned by Cambridge yesterday, but much slower than their 18 mins. 55 secs. of last Friday.

Then, however, they had the assistance of the ebb tide whereas Cambridge had bad weather conditions yesterday as well as rough water through barge traffic on the river, and today the Oxford crew encountered such rough water at one stage that their boat was in danger of being swamped. Considering all things, it was a good performance on the part of Oxford and while comparisons with Cambridge's time are not reliable the Oxford programme, taking into account the starting and finishing points, represented about four and a half lengths in favour of the Dark Blues.

Oxford were paced by a school crew at the start and started off at a good rate. Forced to cut their clip through the rough water, they finished strongly with a last minute of 34 and a half strokes.

The crew showed great strength and made full use of the rowers. Cambridge, meanwhile, had two outings of short duration. Oxford expect to try their new boat tomorrow while Cambridge expect theirs early next week.—Reuter.

FOR THE BUSINESSMAN**Co-ordinated Aid Schemes Urged By Bank President**

Santiago, Chile, Mar. 7.

Mr Eugene Black, President of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, today urged that international organisations co-ordinate development programmes for the world's backward areas.

In a speech prepared for delivery to the United Nations Economic and Social Council here, he said that there was a bewildering multiplicity of channels through which the backward areas were being offered aid.

"Some of the assisting countries are proceeding on a purely national basis," he added. "Others are acting through a variety of instruments, both national and international, without much integration among them."

International agencies, besides being potentially the most efficient for such work, would not be charged with invading national sovereignty, with economic exploitation, or with political discrimination among the different countries, Mr Black said.

Mr Black suggested that the United Nations and its specialised agencies take a stronger lead in working with member countries on development and related problems.

He declared: "This is the challenge facing the International Bank and other specialised agencies of the United Nations today—to show, by doing, that they deserve to be given key responsibility."

FUNDAMENTAL FACT

Mr Black said that because of the Korean war the availability of Bank funds no longer meant that supplies and equipment required for development would be easily available.

"The armament efforts now proceeding in many parts of the world are pre-empting materials, machines and manpower which otherwise could be used to create more wealth and higher standards of living," he explained.

The world's backward areas could not escape the fundamental fact that economic development was primarily their own responsibility.

"In one way or another, the most necessary requisite for development may be reform," Mr Black declared. "It may be the kind of reform which costs hardly any money at all. Or it may be the kind of reform which, although costly and difficult, can proceed without external assistance."—Reuter.

Pepper Stocks Drop

New York, Mar. 7.

Stocks of black pepper in licensed warehouses during February dropped to 233 bags of 140 pounds each, the smallest total in the records of the New York Produce Exchange. At the end of January, stocks totalled 1,893 bags. There were no February receipts while withdrawals amounted to 1,660 bags.

The largest amount of pepper held in licensed warehouses was 673,527 bags, reported on April 13, 1939.—United Press.

New York Metals

New York, Mar. 7.

Prices in the metal market here closed today unchanged with the following exceptions:—

Tin, Grade A (99.80 per cent or higher)

New York, per lb. 1.64 nominal.

Copper (electrolytic, export)

F.O.B.

New York, per lb. 20.

Lead, Common, New York, per lb. 15-16.—United Press.

Grain Price In Chicago

Chicago, Mar. 7.

Prices of grain futures closed here today as follows:—

Wheat—price per bushel

Spot 2.46

March 2.43 1/4

May 2.48-2.48 1/4

July 2.44 1/2-9 1/4

September 2.45 1/2-1 1/4

December 2.48 1/2-2.49

Corn

Spot 1.83

March 1.79 1/2

May 1.82 1/2-1.83

July 1.84 1/2-1.84

September 1.81 1/2-1 1/4

December 1.71 1/2

Oats

Spot 1.89 1/2

March 1.86 1/2-1 1/4

May 99 1/2 bid

July 98 1/2-1 1/4

New York flour—per 200 lb. sack.

\$13.20.—United Press.

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Bing—Who Stampeded New York

By Kay Murray

WHEN Mr Rudolf Bing, organiser of Glyndebourne and the Edinburgh Festival, was approached by the directors of the Metropolitan Opera Association of New York, they asked him what he would do if he were made its manager. He replied: "I haven't any idea."

Such candour apparently impressed the board, who immediately engaged him. Their decision has been overwhelmingly vindicated, for the 1950-1951 season—now near its close—has undoubtedly been one of the most successful and unusual in the "Met's" 68 years of existence.

Heads have rolled and reputations have been made, and the new manager, who took over his job in the face of a good deal of bitter opposition, has become the serenely indifferent idol of New York's musical and fashionable set.

When his appointment was announced, no rumour was too wild for credence. He would have an all-Wagner season, he was going to drop Italian opera from the repertoire, he intended to bring in all the ex-Nazi singers left in Europe, and so on.

COLLAPSE ON TIN MARKET

London, Mar. 7.

Tin prices collapsed at the morning session of the tin market, following the United States decision to cease stockpiling of that metal. Turnover was only 25 tons, all in three-month tin. The market closed weak.

Prices closed today at the end of the official morning session as follows:—

Spot tin, buyers 1,365

Spot tin, sellers 1,370

Business done at all

Three-month tin, buyers 1,220

Three-month tin, sellers 1,230

Business done at 1,220-1,200

Settlement 1,375

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Mr Bing, who happens not to care about Wagner, and who became technically a displaced person when Hitler walked into his birthplace, Vienna, opened the battle with some resounding shots. He fired 39 stars, including Lauritz Melchior, cut the repertoire from 26 to 21 operas, and engaged a handful of unknowns.

HE re-hired Kirsten Flagstad, who was severely criticised for joining her husband in Nazi-occupied Norway during the war, and took on Margaret Webster, outstanding Broadway producer, and Garson Karin, who won his laurels in Hollywood, to bring the "Met's" staging up to date.

Some heart-burning went on back-stage over his rigid and unheard-of ultimatum that all stars, even the big names, must attend rehearsals. When the curtain went up on Verdi's "Don Carlos" before one of the most brilliant audiences the Opera House has ever seen, everybody was ready with brickbats.

They stayed to throw bouquets. And, with only a few exceptions, bouquets it has been ever since.

"Don Carlos," new to the "Met's" repertoire, was brilliantly staged and beautifully sung. It was succeeded by many old operas with new faces—including "The Flying Dutchman" and a perfectly enchanting new version of "Fledermaus," which sparkled with the lavish glitter of a Broadway musical, plus some superb singing.

THE only flops were "Cavalleria Rusticana" and "Pagliacci," which didn't stand up to an aggressively modern setting. But two flops against nineteen successes is a pretty good average, and Mr Bing is satisfied with his first season, inasmuch as this lean, ascetic-looking man allows himself to be satisfied with anything.

How was it all achieved in one short year? The answer is that Rudolf Bing is a human dynamo.

He is everywhere at once. Besides the normal tasks of engaging artists and overseeing programming and ticket sales, the 49-year-old Viennese contrives to be on hand for all rehearsals, and finds time for such chores as investigating the upholstery of the gallery seats, criticising the hang of a singer's skirt, working out a wiring system and making suggestions for different lighting.

All this involves dealing with a dozen different nationalities in a profession whose middle name is "temperament." Yet the company likes its new regime. As one tenor remarked recently, the Met. has become "a happy house." Yet in spite of sell-out houses, the Metropolitan is losing money. The Government blandly classifying it as "a profit-making institution," takes £140,000 a year in taxes.

PRODUCTION costs are terrific partly owing to the fact that the building was designed by a man who had never seen an opera. It may cost up to £1,500 to stage one production, and a

new production, costing between £17,500 and £24,500 must play five seasons before it shows a profit.

Bing himself says, grimly: "The word art is seldom heard in this house. It is money, money, money."

An appeal for £262,500 was broadcast in December to pay, new works, but response so far has been poor. As the chairman of the Board said recently: "We're not really a carriage-trade house any more. Much of our audience today comes from Brooklyn and the Bronx."

The Met's new manager is showing the strain of his 12-hour day. He looks a little more tired, a little greyer, than he did when he took over last year.

Bing, the Met's tenth general manager, is probably the most democratic it ever had. He walks to work every day, carrying his lunch—a sandwich and a banana in a paper bag. He sometimes eats at a small pub across the street, and the only hobby he has time for is walking his daschund in Central Park early in the morning and at midnight, when he gets home.

He attends four or five performances each week, sometimes in white tie and tails, sometimes in ordinary dress.

"After all," he tells his critics, blandly, "I work here, you know."

THERE isn't a single country in the world where opera pays its way today. In the U.S. it is also subject to the keenest possible competition of stage, screen, radio and television.

But after seeing what the general manager's new broom has managed to achieve in a miraculously short time, critics are prepared to bet that if there's anyone who can pull opera out of the red, Bing's the man to do it.

STANDARD BRIDGE

By M. Harrison-Gray

Dealer: North. Game all.

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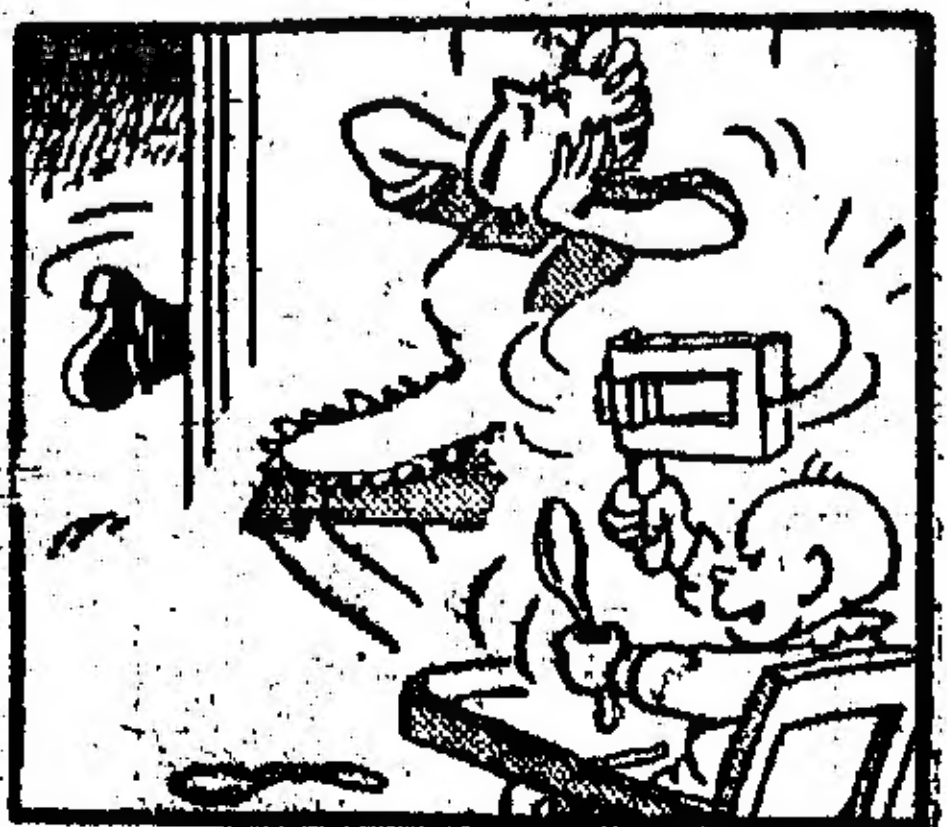
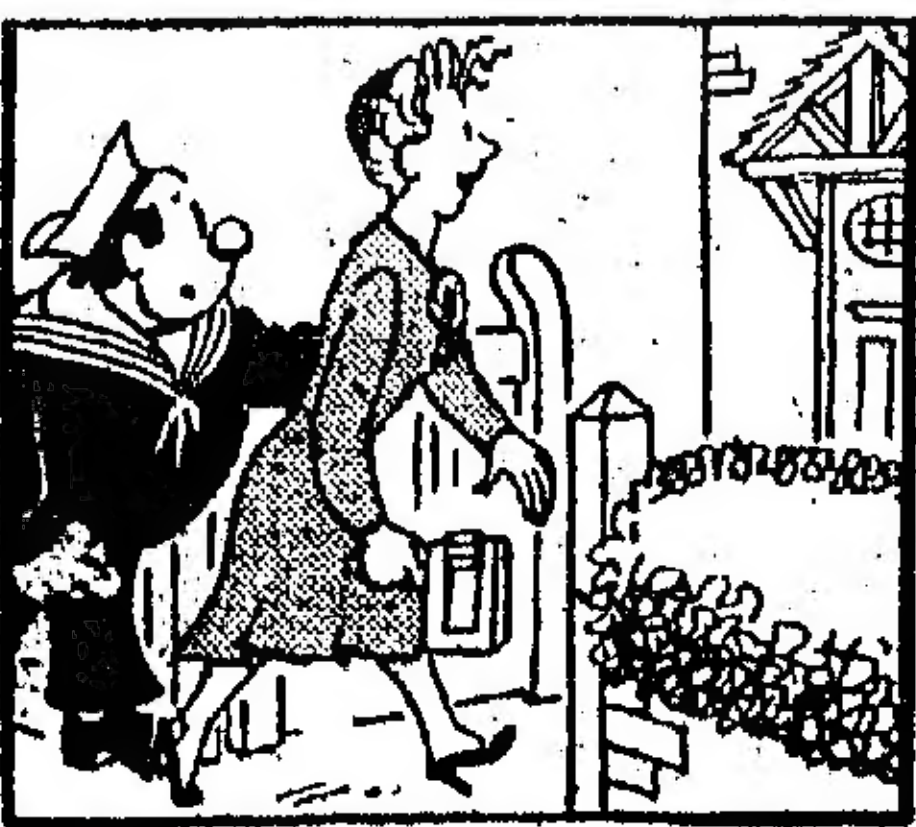
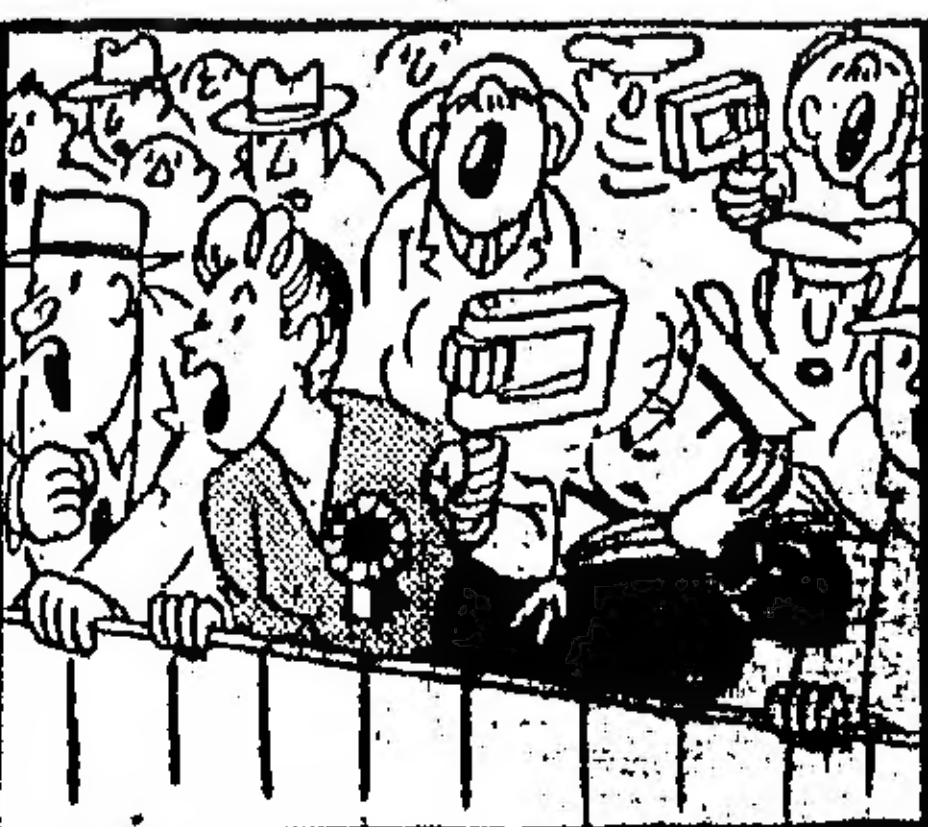
E. Q A Q J 8 6
9 6
Q J 6 5 2

S. A K 7 6 4
5 2
A 7 4 3 2
9

The British ladies showed good judgment on this hand from their match against Italy in the 1950 European Championships. North bid One Diamond and East One Heart; warned by this vulnerable intervention, South refrained from forcing. Her One Spade call was raised to Two by North, and South bid Four Spades, which was just made.

In Room 2 the Italian South forced with Two Spades over East's One Heart, and made things worse with a Blackwood Four No Trumps over North's raise to Three Spades. South saw the red light too late when North's response showed one Ace only, and the final contract of Five Spades was inevitably defeated. East won the opening lead with ♠ J and continued with ♠ A, and West's ♠ J took the setting trick.

London Express Service.

ABLE SEAMAN

By Holt

U.N. FORCES LAUNCH BIG DRIVE

Five Mile Advance In Centre After Intensive Barrage

Stiff Enemy Opposition Encountered

Tokyo, Mar. 7.

A United Nations force of Americans, British, Greeks and South Koreans advanced five miles along the western sector of the Central Korean front today in the biggest offensive since January.

The troops moved off along the 20-mile front at dawn as massed air and artillery laid down a mighty barrage on the Chinese Communist and North Korean positions dug in on the rugged hills.

American infantry lunged forward over rocky crags to cut the main lateral road east-west between Hoengsong, in the centre of the front, and Yongduri, 16 miles to the west.

American tanks led infantry forces northeast on the former Chinese Communist main supply route running between Hoengsong and Hongchong, 16 miles to the north.

American troops of the 24th Infantry Division recaptured early today a strategic hill which the Chinese Communists had forced them off the previous night.

They fought through a hail of enemy bullets and mortar-fire, killing the enemy defenders in their trenches.

By noon, their headquarters officer reported a two-mile advance against stiff enemy opposition.

The American 1st Cavalry Division on the central front's western flank fought through intermittent snow flurries to gain nearly two miles before dusk.

Greek troops worked with American Cavalry Division in scaling the rugged hills on either side of the American tanks to clear them of enemy infantry.

RAZOR-BACK SLOPES

The Greeks fought up razor-back slopes to where Chinese Communist mortar-men were pumping a stream of heavy and light shells on to a road through the steep mountain passes north of Chipyeong—the key Allied base on the western central front.

Australian and Canadian troops attached to the British Commonwealth Brigade advanced three miles into heavily fortified country where the Communists had dug well-prepared positions almost invulnerable to air and artillery attack.

By nightfall, they had inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy and were digging in in deep snow under fire from Communists still occupying the ridges above them.

On the Kimp'o peninsula, west of Seoul, United Nations forces held positions unopposed along the banks of the Han River, completing a horse-shoe shaped Allied line with Seoul in its centre.

RED REINFORCEMENT

Light aircraft flying over the central front today reported "more enemy movements and troop concentrations than for the past month."

The movements were on the lateral east-west roads and the roads leading south.

Air spotters reported groups of Communist troops ranging from 500 to 2,000 about five miles ahead of the United Nations line north of the recently captured Communist stronghold of Hoengsong, and on the extreme east of the central front north of Hamhung, near where the North Koreans today advanced three miles against South Korean defenders.

These enemy movements were considered significant because their size—most of the movements spotted over recent weeks have been of groups around 20 men and seldom more than 200.

United Nations troops who stormed across the Han River east of Seoul under an 800-rounds a minute artillery umbrella at dawn today ran into heavy small-arms and mortar fire after three hours of cautious advance.

One assault force which crossed 15 miles east of the Communist-held South Korean capital met fire from self-propelled guns, but reported a continued advance and the capture of 25 prisoners.

On their right another task force which crossed at the junction of the Han and Punhan Rivers met stiff resistance from a Communist battalion but took 44 prisoners.

Jet planes screamed down to strafe and petrol-bomb Communist-held hills beyond the river.

Seventy miles to the east, on the extreme right flank of the central front, the Communists threw more counter-attacks at the South Koreans and Americans around Changpyong. Chinese Communist troops had hit hard in this area during the night.

An Eighth Army communique said that the counter-attacks were repulsed.

In the centre, United Nations forces made limited gains up to a mile against variable resistance. North Korean forces attacking in the east gained one to three miles, forcing South Korean troops to withdraw to a new defence line below the road leading from Pangnim to the east coast town of Kangnung.

"NO SIGN OF CHINESE"

South Korean officers said that the attackers here were all North Koreans, with no sign of Chinese Communists, but they speculated that the drive might herald the expected Communist counter-offensive.

The Eighth Army communique, however, reported "no significant enemy action" on the east coast.

General Douglas MacArthur visited the war front as his forces lunged over the Han River. He told correspondents that the Chinese Communists were apparently preparing for a massive spring offensive. For the first time the Supreme Commander referred to the possibility of a stalemate.

Of the present campaign, General MacArthur said: "Designed to meet the abnormal military conditions, our strategic plan, involving constant movement to keep the enemy off balance with a corresponding limitation upon his initiative, remains unaltered."

"Our selection of the battle area has forced him into the military disadvantage of fighting far from his base and permitted a greater employment of

our air and sea arms against which he has little defence.

"There has been, as a result, a continuing and exhausting attrition of both his manpower and supplies."

The General returned to Tokyo's Haneda Airport just as dusk fell tonight.—Reuter.

MacArthur

Request For More Forces

Lake Success, Mar. 7.

Mr Ernest Gross, United States delegate to the U.N., indicated today that the Committee on sanctions against Communist China will be asked to consider General MacArthur's appeal for more forces in Korea.

Speaking informally before the Security Council met to discuss India's dispute with Pakistan about Kashmir, he told reporters that "undoubtedly" the 12-nation committee named by the General Assembly to consider "additional measures" against the Chinese Reds would be asked to consider the need for "more supplies and more personnel" in Korea.

He said however the committee had been appointed to consider steps to be taken in Korea and that therefore it was not clear whether the question of General MacArthur's appeal for authorisation to strike back at the Chinese Communists—the implication was that he sought permission to hit the Reds where he found them regardless of geographic boundaries—fell under the authority of the 12-nation group.—United Press.

NO GUARANTEE POSSIBLE

Bonn, Mar. 7.

The Western Allies have told West Germany that they "could not guarantee" to have a West German call for free all-German elections put on the agenda of a Big Four Conference, an Allied spokesman said here today.

He was correcting West German reports that the Allies had "rejected such a request from the Federal Chancellor, Dr Konrad Adenauer."

The Allies informed Dr Adenauer that Germany would be certain to come up at the Big Four meeting, but they had first to discuss with the Russians before arriving at a specific agenda.—Reuter.

MP's Let Off

Pusan, Mar. 8.

The South Korean National Assembly today voted in secret session not to punish three members of the Assembly who had remained in Seoul during the Communist occupation last summer.

The Assemblymen had been suspected of being Communist collaborators.

Altogether 40 members of the Assembly remained in Seoul during the Communist occupation.—Reuter.



OLD INVENTION—Susan Chatteris is seen in London holding a 100-year-old stuffed Arctic Hare which has been submitted for selection as an eccentric British invention for the Festival of Britain. The interior of the hare is a mechanical wonder; the ears, head and paws move while a musical box plays "God Save the Queen" and "Pop Goes the Weasel."

Crossing 38th Parallel Still Academic

Washington, Mar. 7.

The United States Acting Secretary of State, Mr James Webb, said today that the question of United Nations troops crossing the 38th Parallel in Korea was still "academic."

The United Nations forces were now not in a position to cross the Parallel and it would be unwise for him to speculate on their future actions.

Mr Webb was questioned at length at his press conference today on General Douglas MacArthur's statement in Tokyo that the existing limitations would, in time, produce a theoretical military stalemate.

General MacArthur said that decisions still had to be taken which would provide an answer on the highest international levels to the obscurities which now bedeviled the situation in Korea.

Mr Webb said that the United States was constantly working with the United Nations and the individual countries concerned on operations and planning in Korea.

He said that the American objectives in Korea were those of the United Nations—to repel aggression and restore peace and security to the area.

Asked if the American objective was also to establish a unified Korea, Mr Webb replied that that was still the official position taken by the United Nations. He added that he did not know of any plans to change that position.

Asked how the United States contemplated destroying the forces of aggression in North Korea without crossing the 38th Parallel, Mr Webb drew attention to the fact that the United Nations had establish-

ed two committees—the Good Offices and the Collective Measures Committees—which were endeavouring to find an answer to those problems.—Reuter.

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